

Minuteman

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Aviator's legacy lives at Dobbins ARB

By Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis
Public Affairs

The dedication of the new Veda LZ assault landing strip at Dobbins Air Reserve Base last month brought back more than memories of an aviator. It also brought pride, a newly found respect and a degree of closure for family members of a flight engineer who lost his life in a tragic C-130 crash at Dobbins ten years ago and for whom the runway has been named.

Master Sgt. Veda Ruiz, a 700th Airlift Squadron flight engineer, was also the flight engineer on a Lockheed C-130 test aircraft that stalled after a brief liftoff, taking the lives of seven Lockheed Martin Aeronautical Systems crew members. A popular and seasoned engineer, Ruiz gained his reputation and respect through the deeds he performed with his family and his military family.

A person described Ruiz at the dedication as devoting his life to his country in everything he did. Ruiz had accumulated 8,200 flying hours in C-130s. In his 20 years with the Air Force Reserve, he helped provide operational and humanitarian aid around the world. During the dedication, Ruiz was eulogized by old friends who flew with him, and by others who knew of his spirit and commitment.

A bronze plaque, sponsored by the Dobbins Thrift



Photo by Don Peek

Brig. Gen. William Kane, 94th Airlift Wing commander, and Glo Ruiz unveil the plaque dedicating the Dobbins Assault Landing Zone to her husband, the late Master Sgt. Veda Ruiz.

Store, is being placed at Base Operations to recognize Ruiz for his accomplishments and his ultimate sacrifice to the aviation field. The assault runway, 3,500 feet long and 60 feet wide, is a training runway used by C-130s to simulate operations where there is limited landing distance.

Col. Heath Nuckolls, 94th Operations Group commander, stated at the dedication, "Every time a plane lands on the new runway, the pilots are going to request permission to land on Veda LZ."

"This shows me a sense of family," said Veda Ruiz Jr., speaking of the dedication. "When someone in the family falls, they (Dobbins and Lockheed) just don't forget about it. Our family extends our utmost gratitude for the dedication of the runway, and I'm truly impressed that after 10 years, my dad's memory still lives on here." J. R., as his family and friends call him, is a social studies teacher at Awtrey Middle School in Cobb County and was 14 when he lost his father and remembers roaming the base with Ruiz Sr.

"I miss being here," he added. "When I was young, I was at Dobbins a lot with my dad. I remember the smell of the planes and being with his friends. Stepping on that plane today didn't bring back the memories of the accident; it just reminded me of the good times we had before it happened. I took it all for granted before it was taken away." J. R. is one of Veda and Glo Ruiz's three children who include Catherine and America. The couple was married in 1970. Veda, who spent four years in the Navy before marriage, and was an Air Force reservist at Kelly Air Force Base,

Texas, when they were married.

"It was hard to adjust to him being gone on the weekends, but he loved to fly," said Glo. "Sitting through the ceremony and listening about him was overwhelming. I am so proud and happy that he will be remembered, but so sad that he was taken from us so early. He would have been mighty honored."

"Today was like a final goodbye to my dad," said America Ruiz, who her father called poopsies. "I didn't realize he was so important and hard working. But, I do know that our family being together was important to him and he'd do anything to make us happy." America added that she gave her dad a honeybee pin he wore on his flight suit. The pin was returned to her after the accident.

A tearful Connie Barsenas, Veda's sister from Saginaw, Mich., could not attend the funeral in 1993 and the dedication meant closure for her as she sat at the Base Operations ceremony. She remembered the letter he had written her, but had not mailed at the time of his death.

"He was going to send me two beautiful poems," said Barsenas. "When the letter was found among his belongings, it was like he was saying goodbye. The poems have meant a lot to me over the years. I enlarged and hung them on my wall and they inspire

me everyday."

After the ceremony, family members boarded a bus for a look at the Veda LZ and a C-130 Ruiz had flown. They saw and felt the symbols that ensure Ruiz's spirit will live on at Dobbins ARB.



Photo by Don Peek

From left, Veda Ruiz Jr., Glo Ruiz and America Ruiz visited Dobbins Air Reserve Base to attend the dedication of Veda LZ to Master Sgt. Veda Ruiz.



Photo by Rick Ross

Master Sgt. Veda Ruiz, a 700th Airlift Squadron flight engineer, is now an historical part of Dobbins Air Reserve Base.

Experience provides opportunity to learn



Photo by Don Peek

By Lt. Col. Daniel Nichols
94th Airlift Wing, executive officer

When I reflect on my life in the Reserve and observe the experiences of others, I cherish the common bonds we all share in serving the military. We share the spirit of service and the attitude of a new start in life when we join. We share adventure, accomplishments and disappointments, memories of our friends, mentors, and the personal moments of hard work, commitment, and self-satisfaction. Finally, we share the opportunity to learn from each other.

Everything we do has a beginning, middle and end. And so it is with our military commitments. We may enlist right

out of high school or receive an officer appointment after obtaining a four-year degree. Both situations provide a fresh start and a road to discovery.

Even though joining the military may be a new experience, we already know or soon realize that we are stepping into an institution of history, tradition, and pride. My advice to our new members is to open your minds to learn from every opportunity and perform to the best of your abilities. Also, maintain and nourish your relationship with God, and develop a good learning relationship with mentors within your organization. We all benefit from the voice of experience. Inspirational readings provide a good source, whether they focus on spiritual values, self-development, or the struggles and accomplishments of others.

During those initial years of development, we acquire proficiency in our career fields and seek opportunities for advancement. We enter another phase as we demonstrate competence within our career fields and take on positions of junior leadership.

Our confidence and success within the military influences our performance in our civilian jobs. I have 12 years experience as a terminal operations manager with Roadway Express, a commercial trucking firm. I was one of four people that managed the day-to-day operations of more than 300 workers.

The job was very demanding. The ability to follow orders and get the job done was an important ingredient for success within that company. That experience enhanced and reconfirmed my ability to communicate with different personalities.

It also contributed to my performance as an aircraft commander and instructor pilot.

As we become senior leaders and performers, we have a duty to share and look after our junior members as well as working to make this a better Air Force. That sense of responsibility and commitment doesn't end with our decision to retire after years of service.

Once you're a member you're always a member of the Air Force family. Our retirees can take pride that each one contributed to the whole. It's never just one of us; it's the whole team. The various support groups and organizations can benefit and grow from your experiences. We all have stories to share and messages to deliver to the civilian communities that support the Air Force. As we move forward, we constantly look back to cherish and honor the history made by those who served before us.

The traditional reservist is a special category of human being with a special sense of dedication and motivation. The civilian and air reserve technicians that run the day-to-day operations at Dobbins also exemplify those attributes of duty.

The Air Force relies much more on the capability of their Reserve forces. Our contribution and participation in the recent and current worldwide operations is evidence of the increasing role of the Reserve.

(Editors Note: With more than 30 years in the Air Force Reserve as a traditional reservist and air reserve technician, Nichols has piloted the C-130 and C-5A aircraft. His home roots are in Connecticut. He and his wife, Peggy, have five children.)

Tough competition brings out the best in the 700th

By Staff Sgt. Micky Cordiviola
Public Affairs

The Mustang Rodeo just came into town. No, it didn't have bull riders or rodeo clowns, but it did have plenty of competition from local 700th Airlift Squadron air crews.

The Mustang Rodeo was derived from the airlift competition held Air Force wide that includes international competitors flying different types of aircraft. In the mid 1980s, the 700th AS won this worldwide competition to prove that they were the best of the best. While the international competition includes more categories and competitors, 700th AS crews took the idea in September and reduced it to three competitive categories.

"This event combines training, camaraderie and friendly competition," said Maj. Mark Ott, 700th evaluator pilot. "It is a great way to capitalize on specific training and to have a great time in the process."

The first annual competition involved six teams that were tasked to air drop cargo. They were evaluated for time over target and where the cargo landed. Even though there were winners in each of the categories and a best overall, each team scored well above the average score.

The team winning the best overall award included Ott and Lt. Col. Scott Breed, Maj. Mark Bryant, Tech. Sgt. Ed Dearborn, and Staff Sgt. Brian Williams.

"We have the opportunity to step outside our teacher role and show off some of our flight skills," said Maj. Doug Hopper, 700th AS evaluator pilot. "The rodeo also provides bragging rights to the winners and a trophy that includes the names of all five crew members who did the best overall."

Competition winners were not the only ones that received awards. There was plenty of recognition for the groups who didn't fare as well as their competition.

"The awards we have the most fun with are the mocking awards," said



Photo by Don Peek

The winning team is, from left: Staff Sgt. Brian Williams, Lt. Col. Scott Breed, Maj. Mark Ott, Maj. Mark Bryant and Tech. Sgt. Ed Dearborn

Hopper. "It gives everyone a good laugh and is in the trophy case everyone to view."

"Without the enormous amount of help from people all around the base, the Mustang Rodeo would not have been possible," said Lt. Col. Kevin McNeight, 700th AS instructor pilot. "We just can't thank them enough for all their hard work and dedication to accomplish the mission."



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80th Aerial Port joins active duty at Dover AFB

By Senior Airman Jennie Morrison
512th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

A 15-member team of reservists from the 80th Aerial Port Squadron is participating in a 60-day contingency mission supporting the 436th Aerial Port Squadron and Operation Enduring Freedom at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

Despite a stifling heat inside the 436th Aerial Port, the work never ceases. People and forklifts bustle back and forth between pallets stacked high with cargo.

Master Sgt. Chester England, 80th APS cargo supervisor, zips between pallets on a forklift, transporting boxes to their proper location. When he is finished, fellow aerial port workers first cover the pallet with plastic, then use a fabric netting to secure it.

The end products, odd-shaped plastic covered bulks, are organized and shelved to await their destination aboard a C-5 Galaxy. The process of preparing pallets is a task that requires support and teamwork, and England is doing his part to lend a hand.

The group of reservists arrived Aug. 1 after a 15-hour drive from Dobbins ARB. After arriving, the reservists were briefed on current military operations, safety and emergency procedures and chain of command, allowing for a smooth transition into Dover's aerial port operations.

The reservists were then sent to jobs in different

areas including air terminal operations, ramp processing, cargo processing, fleet and passenger terminal services.

While offering support to the 436th APS, the reservists get a chance to update their training.

"One of the good things about working here is working with new equipment," said Tech. Sgt. Tommy White, 80th APS air terminal operations specialist.

"While at Dover, the 80th APS has the opportunity to work with and learn about new tools such as the hand-held cargo processing scanner and the new generation service loader," White said. "Such equipment is not always available at Dobbins ARB because of the base's focus on training."

Members of the 80th APS work alongside the 436th APS members 12 hours a day, five days a week. While the hours are long, the tour provides the reservists with 60 days of on-the-job training, said White.

The 80th APS offers support for the 436th APS, but White emphasized the team effort involved in accomplishing the aerial port's mission. He said the 436th APS and the rest of the squadrons supporting the aerial port work well together.

"It's a team effort out here," White said.

Amid the heat, boxes and pallets, members of the 80th APS are offering mission support and gaining experience with new equipment. They are returning home but leave behind evidence of their hard work in the form of wrapped and ready-to-go cargo pallets.



Photo by Senior Airman Jennie Morrison

Master Sgt. Chester England, 80th Aerial Port Squadron, operates a forklift at the 436th Aerial Port at Dover Air Force Base, Del. England is one of 15 reservists participating in a 60-day mission supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

WWII veteran shares experiences at POW ceremony

By Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis
Public Affairs

Today, we grimace when we hear about one of our own being taken as a prisoner of war. And, it's with a good reason. As a prisoner, life is going to be a little tougher as William Price related to his audience at the 19th annual POW/MIA Tree Planting Ceremony.

The Air Force Sergeants Association with support from the Veterans of Foreign Wars sponsors the ceremony to honor and recognize those who are still missing in

action and who were prisoners of war. Each year, speakers from former POWs to their family members share their feelings about their POW/MIA experiences. This year, Price quickly drew the attention of the crowd and held it as he told of his treatment as a prisoner of war in Japan.

Price, a crewmember onboard a B-29 aircraft, was one of three who survived when a Japanese Kamikaze pilot rammed their plane over Japan. Losing its left wing and spiraling down, Price managed to escape the aircraft.

"When I gained consciousness, my parachute had opened," said Price, American Ex-Prisoners of War department director of West Central Georgia.

"It was a lovely day, just like today and I thought how nice it was...until I realized where I was." Price said that as he came down he saw about two hundred Japanese farmers, police, and soldiers coming for him.

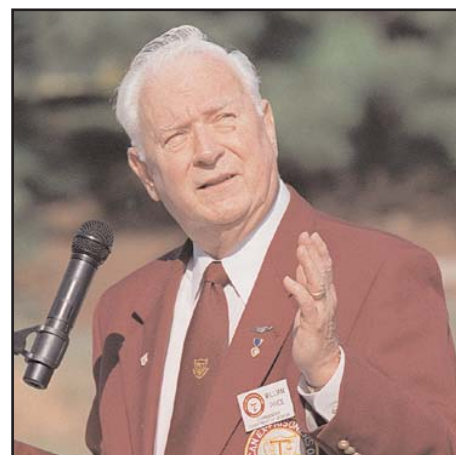


Photo by Don Peek

William Price, a WWII prisoner of war, describes his time in captivity.

"I landed about 300 yards away from them just on the other side of a small knoll," he continued. "I pulled out my service revolver, place a round in the chamber...then, I asked myself, 'what are you doing?' I threw that pistol into the water and threw my hands up."

Price then told of his treatment at being captured in April of 1945, through his confinement and his eventual liberation in August of that year. He sustained broken ribs and a broken collarbone when he was captured, and was knocked unconscious several times during captivity. During interrogation sessions, he often had a pistol at his head and for rations, received barely

enough to keep him alive. Price weighed 103 pounds when he was freed from Camp Omori, Japan.

Introducing Price and welcoming him back to Dobbins ARB was Col. Heath Nuckolls, 94th Operations Group commander. Libby Scarberry, who coordinates the event, reminded the audience of the importance of not forgetting our missing in action and Betty Thomason, president of AFSA Chapter 452 Auxiliary, read the names of those Georgians still missing in action. Also part of the ceremony was a 700th Airlift Squadron C-130 flyby.



Photo by Don Peek

The joint service Color Guard represents all branches of service at the POW/MIA memorial ceremony.



Photo by Don Peek

Libby Scarberry, Air Force Sergeants Association, helps plant the tree in memory of POWs and MIAs.

Family Day means fun for kids and adults

By Senior Airman David Atchison
Public Affairs

Annually, the Dobbins Air Reserve Base Services Division and the Associated Federal Credit Union host



Photo by Don Peek

Jonathan Watkins, son of Tech. Sgt. Timothy Watkins, 94th Aircraft Maintenance Flight crew chief, wears his latest prize, an Employer Support of Guard and Reserve pouch, to remind him who he will employ to operate his future candy company.



Family Day.

The day could be described as an annual barbeque and softball game for reservists and their families, but that wouldn't do the event justice. The actual event is far more special than can be described. Family Day is about the brief convergence of different lives. It's a time when fathers introduce their sons to colonels and colonels play softball. For four short hours, we're not service members or civilians, we are family.

"We all had a great time today," said Master Sgt. Greg Lee, 700th Airlift Squadron loadmaster. "The kids really enjoyed the games." Lee came to Family Day with the intent to have fun and he brought his fiancé Lorina Frankford and her sons Bradley and Collin along as reinforcements. Bradley really enjoyed the moonwalk and the slide and his brother Collin liked the bungee jumper and the paddleboats, said Lee. Both of them enjoyed the food, he added.

"We fed roughly 1,800 people this year," said Jess Holcomb, Dobbins ARB Services Division chief. Fresh hot dogs, hamburgers, coleslaw, potato salad, and chili were available free of charge to the troops and their families. To keep everyone cool, popsicles, ice cream and fresh lemonade and iced tea were also on hand. Halfway through the event, a raffle was held and some lucky troops walked away with a 50 dollar gift certificate or a trip to Savannah, Ga. The weather was perfect for Family Day and the hosts hired a professional disc jockey to entertain the crowds throughout the day.

Family Day is also the battleground of Dobbins' older feuds. Yearly the chiefs and colonels lock arms in softball Armageddon. After 5 innings, the chiefs squeezed by the colonels in a 7 to 6 victory. In other softball news, the 22nd Air Force beat the 94th Airlift Wing 14-6. At the end of the day everyone was the winner of a nice relaxing day with his or her family and friends.

"Family Day is always an enriching event" said Brig. Gen. William Kane, 94th Airlift Wing commander. "It gives us the unique opportunity to reflect on how for-

tunate we all are. Being in the military not only gives us a chance to protect the families we were born into, it gives us the opportunity to expand our family, the opportunity to become brothers in arms. Family Day gives us the opportunity to realize this kinship."



Photo by Don Peek

Jonathan Watkins, furrows his brow in concentration. He enjoyed Family Day almost as much as his cotton candy.



Photos by Don Peek

This Family Day, 94th Airlift Wing and 22nd Air Force reservists and their families enjoyed food, conversation, dancing, leisurely activities and sporting events at Dobbins Air Reserve Base. Sporting events included volleyball, horseshoes, the 94th AW versus 22nd AF and the chiefs versus colonels softball games.

Chiefs ring up a win against the colonels.....but

By Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis
Public Affairs

What a game! Lots of double plays, some great fielding and long balls

along with close plays around the bases made for an exciting game. Each year, the chiefs and colonels play a few innings of softball at the base's Family Day. The games started back in 2000 when the

chiefs were whumped by the colonels, but blamed the defeat on a couple of our ringer buddies. The fact is that the colonels would have won that game, hands down, even with the home-base diving antics of Chief Master Sgt. Les Davy.

Ringers are competitors who enter or are asked to enter a game by someone who wants some advantage. Most likely ringers have skills far superior to anyone who they would play for. This year, it was the chief's turn to put in the ringers. No ringers, no game. With fewer chiefs than you can count on a single hand of fingers, the chiefs pulled the best players from the 22nd Air Force and 94th Airlift Wing teams. Even then, the chiefs barely beat a stubborn bunch of colonels and light birds.

The chiefs walked away feeling good about the game last month, but to be fair, they should eat a little crow as was pointed out by more than one colonel, and a general. Back in 2000, Chief Master Sgt. Charlie Brown, in a good-natured



Photo by Don Peek

Col. Heath Nuckolls, 94th Operations Group commander, aims at his favorite chief master sergeant.

editorial, raised an issue about the ringers. No, he never actually protested the game with the Amateur Softball Association, either. That was a joke. What he was saying was that the game was a lot of fun, no matter who won. And the same rang true for this year's game.

"We certainly appreciated the participation and the great game with the chiefs and their friends," said Col. James Glenn, 94th AW vice commander and catcher after the 7-6 loss. "We applaud their performance," he said with a wink.

Bring on next year.



Photo by Don Peek

Command Chief Master Sgt. James Woods, 94th Airlift Wing, aims for the stars to achieve victory over the colonels team.

Berkmar Fast Steppers earn money for high school sport

By Senior Airman David Atchison
Public Affairs

Did you notice the team of young, enthusiastic servers at Family Day this year?

The teenagers were members of the Berkmar High School Step team - the Fast Steppers. Stepping is

a tournament competition sport that mixes elements of military marching drills and dance. Since stepping is not a sanctioned sport, meaning it is not recognized by the school, members of the Berkmar Fast Steppers must raise the funds for their uniforms, transportation and competition fees.

"We just got together as many people as we could to come out here and work for you guys," said 16-year-old Bittoria Williams. The Fast Steppers, their families and friends all volunteered with the Fun Company, an organization that finds volunteer projects for nonprofit groups and awards them stipends for completing their jobs. The Fast Steppers volunteered their services for Family Day, but were enlightened by what they saw.

"The kids had a great time out here," said Tara Sanders, Assistant Coach of the Fast Steppers. "I think a lot of

their preconceptions about the military were challenged out here. While many people see the military as a protective force, few get the opportunity to see them as a family. The trip was both profitable and eye opening for the Fast Steppers," she added.



Photo by Master Sgt. Stan Coleman

The Gwinnett County Berkmar High School Fast Steppers give Family Day attendees an impromptu display of what stepping is all about.



Photo by Master Sgt. Stan Coleman

The Family Day fun was contagious for volunteers Bittoria Williams, 16, of the Berkmar High School Fast Steppers and Darrin Thompson. The pair was on hand to serve cotton candy in efforts to raise money for the high school's step team.

Son of Dobbins reservist tackles Air Force Academy

By Senior Airman Paul Reid Hanna
Public Affairs

Back in 1999, Air Force Academy Graduate Jeffrey Jenkins was just another kid attending high school. Jeff, like most other high school kids, had life altering-decisions sneaking up on him. He was on the threshold of manhood. He had to



Photo by Paul Reid Hanna

Master Sgt. Jody Jenkins, 94th Maintenance Squadron Air Fuel Systems supervisor, knew his son would attend college, but never expected it would be the Air Force Academy.

answer the question, "What am I going to do now?"

Jeff was not without influences; he knew college was in his future. Jeff's father, Master Sgt. Jody Jenkins, 94th Maintenance Squadron Air Fuel Systems supervisor, had assured all his children since they were young that college was mandatory.

"All of my kids knew they were going to college," said Jody. "There was no debating it." Jody's son attended Benjamin E. Mays High School where he joined the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps. Jody encouraged his son's participation in JROTC, with the belief that JROTC would help to develop his son's character and build his sense of accountability. Jeff participated in JROTC and frequently heard about the benefits of West Point, but he was also impressed with Emory University and Georgia Technical College.

Jody knew Jeff had spoken to college representatives, considered career options and as many do at a transitional time in their lives, he searched his desires. "What do I want to do now?" Jeff said his last few months of high school were a rushed blur of thoughts. Before the end of school, he finally settled on a college. He had not fully prepared for his choice of schools and much still needed to be done.

Jeff chose to apply to the Air Force Academy. Applying to the Academy is a difficult and determined process, but Jeff

had made up his mind that he wanted to be a pilot and the Academy was the best way to accomplish that goal. Jeff interviewed with the Academy's school board of staff members and retired military. They evaluated his academic preparation, leadership example and physical ability. Jeff also received a letter of appointment from Rep. John Lewis of the 5th Congressional District.

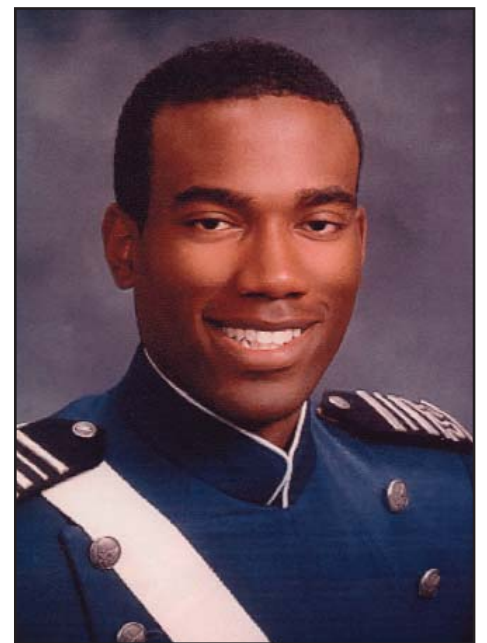
"After speaking to people about my future and after much consideration, the military seemed like the right thing to do; the right place to be," Jeff said.

July 1, 1999, one month after high school graduation, Jeff stood at attention before a boot camp training instructor. He was a student of the Air Force Academy the following fall.

"I was surprised he did this," Jody said. "I was afraid I had been too strict and it would keep him away from military service. Now, I have the feeling that my son chose to follow in my footsteps."

Jeff chose the Air Force because he felt that its training was interesting to him and its lessons fell in line with the values he was raised to appreciate. During Jeff's time at the Academy, he received more than a college education; he received leadership, combat survival and water rescue training. He also began training as a pilot. Jeff said the Academy also introduced him to a new personal goal.

"Training revealed my limits and helped me understand how far I can push



Courtesy photos

Jeffrey Jenkins, a recent Air Force Academy graduate currently in pilot school, said the military seemed like it was the right place for him.

myself," Jeff said. "I became an Honor Officer at the Academy, a student entrusted to teach cadets the established honor code and investigate honor code violations."

On May 28, 2003, family members gathered together around 2nd Lt. Jeffrey Jenkins to witness his graduation from the Air Force Academy.

"My heart was filled with pride as I watched my son at graduation," said Jody. "I guess it makes me feel like I raised a great man."

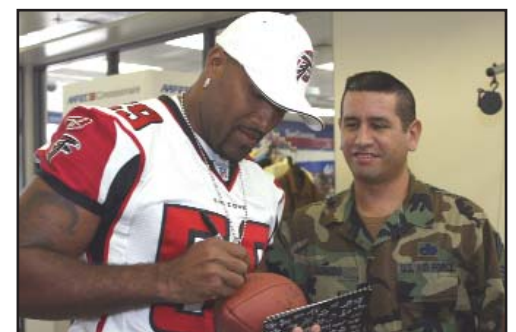
Falcons surprise reservists at the AAFES Base Exchange



Left, Sgt. Charles Gregory, assigned to 94th Security Forces from the Georgia Army National Guard 2130th Transportation Company, and Sam Rogers, Atlanta Falcons linebacker, seemed like old friends after meeting at Dobbins' Base Exchange. Above right, Cory Hall, Falcons safety, autographs tee-shirts and footballs for Navy and Air Force members. Below right, Rogers signs a football for Senior Master Sgt. Luis Agredo, Transportation Proficiency Center program manager.



Photos by Don Peek



The Navy hospital has changed hours

The Naval Air Station Atlanta Medical Clinic has changed its hours of operation during the Naval Air Station drill weekend. The new hours will be Wednesday through Sunday 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The hours of operation for the Pharmacy Division and Health Benefits Advisors remain unchanged. Clinic operations on non-NAS Atlanta drill weekends are Monday through Friday.

Football frenzy

The Consolidated Club wants to make the football season for reservists a touchdown. Since last month, the club has been hosting Friday social hours, an event where club members enter Air Force wide prize drawings with prizes ranging from Super Bowl tickets to regular season game tickets. For more information, call 678-655-4594.

Tailgate party

The Dobbins Consolidated Club will hold its first ever Tailgate Party Oct. 3 at 4p.m. Come by the club's parking lot for hamburgers, hot dogs, games and prizes. For more information, call 678-655-4594.

Dining facility closed

The dining facility will be closed the weekend of the October Unit Training Assembly. The Dobbins Consolidated Club will provide meals during the October UTA.

Fall Fling Saturday of October UTA

It's the time of the year again when nights are cooler and a good bowl of chili hits the spot. So what could be better after a day of mobility exercising than chili, barbecue, snacks and drinks? There will be plenty for everyone at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4, in Bldg. 838, Bay 3. This year's event comes with a disk jockey and door prizes. The Fall Fling is free to all Dobbins personnel and retirees.

Possible cause of accident, cell phone



Photo by Don Peek

Lisa Robinson's duties as a mail carrier came to an abrupt ending recently as she and her mail truck were struck by a car on US 41 at the Dobbins' front gate. The mail truck was flipped by a Ford Focus as the driver, reportedly, was reaching for a cell phone and ran the red light. Robinson's injuries were minor.

622nd AES welcomes new commander

Col. Thomas Morrill accepted command of the 622nd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., from Col. Paul Groskreutz, 622nd Regional Support Group commander. The unit is a geographically separated unit of the 622nd RSG. Morrill most recently served as the 433rd AES commander at Kelly Annex, Lackland AFB, Texas. During the ceremony, Col. Annie Anderson relinquished command after eight years as its commander and was presented the Legion of Merit upon her retirement.

Enhancing your dancing

The Oct. 10 and Nov. 7 dinners at the Dobbins Consolidated Club are doubly special because the club is not only offering dinner; it's offering dance classes under the direction of certified ballroom dance instructor Jan Madison. Club members will learn the rumba in October and the salsa in November. For more information, call 678-655-4594.

Join the thrills at Casino Night

Calling all high rollers on Saturday, Nov. 1 for a fun-filled night of gaming as the Consolidated Club opens up the craps, roulette, poker and blackjack tables. Along with all the gaming, hors d'oeuvres, prizes, raffles and disc jockey Marque Cooper come at the low price of \$20 per person. For more information, call 678-655-4594.

Thanksgiving made easy

Spend less time in the kitchen and more time with your family this Thanksgiving by attending the Consolidated Club's Thanksgiving buffet. On Thanksgiving Day, the club will offer a holiday buffet featuring roast beef, honey-baked ham, turkey, dressing, smoked salmon, sweet potato soufflé, creamed potatoes and a variety of gourmet salads, vegetables and desserts. Club members pay only \$14.95 and nonmembers pay \$16.95. To reserve your spot, call 678-655-4594.

New Year's Eve bash

Come to the Consolidated Club and party like it's 1999. The Annual Consolidated Club New Year's Eve Bash offers fun, food, games, dancing and more. Provided entrees include prime rib or chicken cordon bleu. Also included in the ticket price are a split of champagne, a midnight breakfast and party favors throughout the evening. Ticket sales begin Dec. 2 at the club. A Dobbins Billeting representative will be on site to take room reservations for after party lodging. Billeting reservations are space available and are subject to change due to military requirements. For more information, call 678-655-4594.

Bingo at the Consolidated Club

The Dobbins Consolidated Club hosts a weekly Bingo program every Thursday. Cards go on sale at 5 p.m. and the Early Bird game begins at 6:45 p.m. The regular games begin at 7 p.m. It's a fun night of bingo with \$1,100 on the line. For more information, call 678-655-4594.

Happy birthday to everyone

The Consolidated Club has a birthday gift for all dues paying members. During your birthday month stop by the club and receive a free certificate redeemable for \$10 off any purchase at the club. For more information, call 678-655-4594.

Dobbins Top Three to hold December elections

By Senior Master Sgt. Calvin Stevens
94th Civil Engineer Squadron, first sergeant

If you are interested in the future of the enlisted corps at Dobbins ARB and want to be involved, here's a great opportunity for you. The Dobbins Top Three Association is calling for nominations to the following positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.

These are two-year terms where you will serve on the board, provide direction, and promote the issues and advancement of the organization. If you are interested in running for one of the positions, you must submit your package by Nov. 2. Remember that to qualify for the position; you must be a member in good standing, meaning you've paid your membership dues.

During the November meeting, you will have the opportunity to address the group and share your ideas for its future. A special meeting and election will be held in December to determine the new board to take office in January. The election time and place will be disseminated to all units before the December unit training assembly.

Your package should include a resume, not to exceed two pages, listing qualifications, such as leadership, professional military education or other qualifications. The resume is for board use in reviewing qualifications and is not for general distribution.

Also include a written statement, on a separate sheet of paper, about why you want to hold the position you are seeking. The statement should not exceed 100 words.

Mail your package to:

94 CES/CCF - Elections Committee
Senior Master Sgt. Calvin Stevens
884 Industrial Drive
Dobbins ARB, GA 30069-4210

Or hand-carry it to the 94th CES, Bldg. 501.

Remember, all applications must be received by Nov. 2 to be considered by the Elections Committee. For more information, call 678-655-3550.

Chiefs Group recognizes a new 22nd Air Force Sharp Troop

The Dobbins Chiefs Group has recognized Staff Sgt. Joey Capra, 22nd Air Force work group manager, as a Sharp Trooper. Nominated for the recognition by Chief Master Sgt. Ralph Cox, 94th Communication Squadron first sergeant, Capra was one of several reservists whose outstanding performance kept the base's local area network up and running during a six-month period. "Joey's performance then and now is outstanding," said Cox. "He's as dependable and knowledgeable as they come and we certainly thank him."

Taking a closer look at HRDC

By Capt. Richard Brantley
94th Mission Support Squadron,
Military Equal Opportunity Officer

Quality of life is a universal concern for the military and its civilian counterpart, making it a readiness issue when it comes to fulfilling the mission. This is the basis of the Human Resource Development Council and why it was founded.

The HRDC is an organization comprised of unit representatives who advise and make recommendations to wing leadership on all matters pertaining to human resources within the wing. The council focuses on career life cycle issues such as professional development, mentoring and assuring fair opportunities in promotions and assignments for all members. Other major areas of focus include recruiting and retaining a diverse work force that reflects the community.

The history of the HRDC dates back to 1992, when the Chief of Air Force Reserve established it to make a clear commitment to address diversity and its impact on the work force. The command council was chartered to recommend diversity initiatives and to advise him on how to best assure fair and equal opportunities for all Air Force Reserve members. Local HRDC are committed to assessing and addressing Dobbins ARB human resource issues.

To promote the chief's initiatives, the command HRDC partnered with several national-based organizations including Women in Aviation, the Tuskegee Airmen, Organization of Black Airline Pilots and League of United Latin American Citizens. A common thread the HRDC shares with these national organizations is a commit-

ment to attract and recruit women and minorities to careers in aviation and the Air Force Reserve.

Several members from the 94th Airlift Wing HRDC have recently traveled and participated in national conventions hosted by several of these organizations and have brought back valuable ideas and information to implement within the unit and personnel.

Master Sgt. Sparkle Adams, 94th Mission Support Group career advisor, attended the Tuskegee Airman National Convention in Denver, Colo., last month, while Master Sgt. Victoria Welch, 80th Arial Port Squadron information management specialist, attended the League of United Latin American Citizens Convention in Orlando, Fla.

The HRDC members value your opinion and would appreciate your input regarding human resource issues. They bring their experiences and their own perspectives to leadership in helping to provide reservists and their counterparts the optimal opportunity to succeed and grow professionally. Col. James Glenn, 94th AW vice commander and chairman of the HRDC.

"The wing leadership and the HRDC are committed to making the 94th Airlift Wing the most efficient and combat ready wing in the Air Force Reserve," said Glenn. "We will accomplish this by ensuring we have the most qualified wing member in each position in the wing."

The HRDC meets at 9 a.m. Sunday of the unit training assembly in the Wing Conference Room in Bldg. 838. Stop by and share ideas on ways the council can improve human resources.

Newly assigned

Lt. Col. Daniel J. Nichols
Maj. Alan K. Turner
Capt. Lewis M. Ballard
Capt. Lisbeth Higgins
1st Lt. Chad E. Corlis
Master Sgt. Kelvin D. Battle
Master Sgt. Sharon L. Fitzgerald
Master Sgt. James J. Zubor
Tech. Sgt. John P. Caudle Jr.
Tech. Sgt. Conchita L. Floyd
Staff Sgt. Terry J. Fowler Jr.
Staff Sgt. Brett L. Fuller
Staff Sgt. Michelle Golson
Staff Sgt. Marvin S. Jones
Staff Sgt. Tamuria P. D. Todd
Senior Airman Jodi L. Benson
Senior Airman Phillip D. Collins
Senior Airman Anna R. Kemp
Senior Airman Rajheena L. Leonard
Senior Airman Travis A. Moilanen
Senior Airman Rickey D. O'Berry
Senior Airman Brian E. Yount
Airman 1st Class Lashondra D. Bell
Airman 1st Class Keith G. Dammann
Airman 1st Class Dorneal E. Hayes
Airman 1st Class Arleshia N. Holloway
Airman 1st Class Ugochukwu L. Ogoh
Airman 1st Class Jamie A. Patterson
Airman 1st Class Ronald B. Woods
Airman James M. Eugene Sharp
Airman Basic Lakisha S. Embery
Airman Basic Jason K. Larkins

A Christmas Tree, sponsored by the Transportation Proficiency Center, will stand at the Dobbins Consolidated Club in honor of veterans. The TPC encourages club patrons to donate a pair of socks for hospitalized veterans as part of a holiday contribution and visitation effort this season. For more donation information, call Tech. Sgt. Royce Draughn at 678-655-3209.

Promotions

Chief Master Sergeant
Michael J. Lapa
James M. West
Senior Master Sergeant
Sonya A. Adams
Larry James
Phillip D. Larue
Master Sergeant
Franklin C. Brantley
Vernell R. Carter
Darrell Hatcher
Anthony L. Hopper
Martha A. Mock
Allen L. Cshurr
Ronald L. Vehrs
Technical Sergeant
Scott A. King
Scott W. Randall
Wayne S. Stutes
John C. Westbrook
Staff Sergeant
Mark M. Collier
Thomas E. Greening
Darrell E. Harper
Patrick L. Johnson
Elizabeth G. Petty
Caroline Rogers
Senior Airman
Anthius Q. Bruno
Ashia K. Bennett
Cameron L. Champion
Shylah D. Kirch
Christina M. Sheets
Gregory M. Swartzberg
Airman First Class
Unique L. BeAns
Airman
Christopher L. Barbour
Adrian J. Clark
Richard L. Potter
Amy J. Ricketts
Amanda M. Wagner

October UTA Schedule

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Activity	Time	Location
Sign in	7-8:30 a.m.	Unit assigned
Wing element staff mtg	7:30-8 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202
M-16 rifle AFQC	8 a.m.	Combat arms range
Occupational physicals	8-11 a.m.	Navy Clinic
Newcomers intro	8:30-11:30 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR
NBCCD Refresher	9-11 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1322
Newcomer's orientation	9-3:30 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202
Deployment mgrs mtg	10-11 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR
Occupational physicals	1 p.m.	Navy Clinic
CDC Exams	1-3 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304
NBCCD Refresher	1-3 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1322
Deploy. Outproc. Brief	2 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2306
Retreat (94th SFS)	4 p.m.	Bldg. 922/Front
Fall Fling	4:30 p.m.	Bldg. 838, Bay 3

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Activity	Time	Location
Physical exams (aircrew)	8 a.m.	Navy Clinic
Physical exams (others)	8:30 a.m.	Navy Clinic
Immunizations	8-11 a.m.	Navy Clinic
HRDC meeting	9 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR
FS Unit POC MTG	9-9:30 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2313
Yellow Fever shots	9-10 a.m.	Navy Clinic
Chiefs Group mtg	9-10 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202
CDC exams	9 a.m.-noon	Bldg. 838/Rm 2304
IG complaints	10 a.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 2105
Enl. advisor council mtg.	10-10:30 a.m.	Bldg. 838/WCR
1st Sgts. meeting	11-noon	DOBBINS COM
Cmdr's working lunch	11:30 a.m.	Com (Marietta room)
Flying Safety	1-2 p.m.	Bldg. 727/700 AS
56 Club	1-2 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202
30-day record review	1-2 p.m.	Bldg. 838/Rm 1202
Immunizations	1-3 p.m.	Navy Clinic
Supervisor safety trng.	1:15-2 p.m.	Bldg. 744/2nd Fl.
Trng Review Pnl	2-3 p.m.	Bldg. 727/700 AS